

Why does EMS collect data?

The reasons for data collection are many and compelling.

- identify and anticipate trends in patient care to allow the emergency medical services system to grow efficiently
- facilitate comparison of data with other systems to improve emergency patient care
- track patient outcomes; and link outcomes to specific prehospital interventions
- modify training programs to meet the changing needs of the EMS system
- advocate more effectively for funding
- ultimately to positively quantify why we do many of the things we do and continue to do them better

We need the expertise of our men and women 'in the trenches' to continually reassess the quality of EMS services. To do that, we need accurate and timely submitted data. EMS data is not for finger pointing. It is for making the system better for each patient we serve.